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Bureau of Plant Industry U. S. Dept. of Agriculture H. P. Gould, Sr. Pomologist Washington, D. C.

Bulletin 5

March 1, 1939

Introducing to You

NEW COLOR HARMONIES

To Glorify American Gardens

Hardy Perennials and Shrubs—Fresh From the Rich Floral Region of the Upper Columbia River

Lovely as any now in your garden, extremely hardy, of proven garden value, yet little known east of the Rocky Mountains

To introduce these new treasures to the flower-lovers of America, our Special Offer enables members of garden clubs to obtain large young plants of the choicest varieties at low cost, grown by the NATIVE GARDENS of SPOKANE, WASHINGTON.

Individuals may unite their orders in group shipments at club rates much lower than the usual price per plant. You will thus enjoy this beauty in your own garden while proving the worth of these new plants to your community.

ACT QUICKLY!

Bring this up at your first club meeting. Send your club order promptly, and plant early, to enjoy their full beauty this summer.

These plants and shrubs now adorn a few pioneer gardens in New England, Virginia, Georgia, Texas, Calfornia, and other states. With proper culture they thrive in most parts of the country, and will do well with the simple care you bestow on other treasured plants. Their unusual beauty of flower and foliage justifies your effort to grow them. Be first in your community to enjoy these distinctive colors.

SINCERELY YOURS,

C. E. Artman



FOUR HARDY NEW ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS

For lawn, hedge, evergreen border.

HARDY MOUNTAIN BOX (Pachistima myrsinites). A very choice evergreen for borders, edging and trimmed hedge. Foliage similar to boxwood in color and habit, but of more rapid growth, and hardy where common box winterkills. Foliage keeps deep green all the year, not discolored by sub-zero cold or hot summer sun. Excellent untrimmed to cover shady slopes, or clipped to make a thick compact hedge, set a foot apart. Naturally graceful, its usual height is two feet, reaches three feet in cool moist spots in the mountains. Prefers moist semi-shade, but thrives also in quite dry sunny soil. Stocky fine-rooted 12" plants:

10 for \$5.50; 3 for \$2.00; 75 cents each

FLOWERING OCEAN SPRAY (Holodiscus discolor). A large sun-loving shrub with spirea-like foliage on arching 6 foot branches, covered in June with drooping creamy panicles like soft white lilacs. It is wonderfully showy in bloom, and remains handsome all summer and fall from the lovely tan color of the faded flower-clusters. It grows vigorously in any well-drained sunny soil. A distinctive ornament for the lawn or tall border. The finest tall shrub of the Northwest.

Large 3 foot specimen plants:

10 for \$7.50; 3 for \$2.50; \$1.00 each.

Well-rooted 2 foot plants:

10 for \$6.00; 3 for \$2.00; 75 cents each.

ROSE SPIREA (S. Douglasi). Soft showy rosered pyramids on handsome light-green 5 foot foliage gives continuous late-season color from July to frost. A vigorous grower that makes a neat screen and is fine for mass effect in low moist spots. Forms a thickening tall clump if set 18" apart in ordinary or rich soil, sun or light shade. Strong well-rooted plants 2 foot tops.

10 for \$4.50; 3 for \$1.50; 60 cents each.

CREEPING HOLLYGRAPE (Mahonia repens).

A very hardy low type whose spreading roots send up leafy foot-high woody stems clad with evergreen holly-like foliage that is a beautiful bronze or scarlet in winter, becoming green again in spring. It is handsome all the year, with early yellow flowers and frosted blue grape-clusters. Fine in shaded corners and among evergreens—stands a lot of dry sunny weather too. This form is excellent for ground cover in exposed rocky places, thriving on both limestone and acid soil. It is highly recommended for bleak open places in the middle-western and northern states. Plants set 18" apart soon form a compact cover.

OREGON HOLLYGRAPE (M. aquifolium).

A beautiful erect taller form reaching 3 feet with glossy evergreen foliage whose high ornamental value is recognized in the east. It should be planted widely for winter color and all-year beauty in the middle west and southern states as well. Foliage is entirely hardy in the north where protected by snow, or sheltered from burning winter sun by shade or northern exposure. Requires little care when established, and grows well in ordinary soil. One of the most beautiful hardy shrubs of the United States.

Well-rooted stocky 12" plants, your choice of either type.

10 for \$5.50; 3 for \$2.00; 75 cents each.



COMPLETE SHRUB COLLECTION

Delivery prepaid

Single Order: One each of Mountain Box, Hollygrape, Ocean Spray, Rose Spirea
(4 full-size plants, value \$2.85)\$2.50
Three Orders—wrapped separately for three persons in one package, each plant labeled
(12 plants, value \$8.55.)
Five Orders as above, for five persons (20 plants, value \$14.25)
Ten Orders as above, for ten persons (40 plants, value \$28.50) \$20.00

TEN NEW HARDY PERENNIALS

for showy garden display and cutting

Vivid blues, warm reds, delicate salmon.

Showy Pentstemons. This brilliant sunloving western family is noted for the abundance of its flowers, in rich shades of blue or red, opening in succession along erect spikes, with attractive foliage. They have vigorous roots that spread widely in lean porous sunny soil, and thrive best with very little moisture. These four varieties give a succession of lovely flowers all summer in sunny bed or border, and are easy to grow in light soil that is never soaked.

TALL BLUE GLABER (P. speciosus). The marvelous heaven-blue trumpets that cover erect spikes two to four feet tall are considered by color experts the finest and clearest blue of any summer flower. This tall western variety has large blooms to 2" long, and is perhaps the most abundant bloomer. Very showy in the perennial border, Glaber is without doubt the finest for cutting, its long stalks staying fresh and beautiful for many days. It blooms for two months or more, starting in June or July. We are featuring these unusually fine large plants.

12 for \$3.00; 3 for \$1.00; 35 cents each.

VENUS VIOLET (P. venustus). This fine native of Idaho is bushier, lighter blue, and slightly later than Glaber, with enduring crown bearing many 18" stalks. It is an easy grower and eager bloomer, a wonderful borden plant, showy over a long period, quite new to gardens.

10 for \$3.00; 3 for \$1.00; 35 cents each.

RICHARDSON RED (P. Richardsoni). Graceful 2 foot stems bearing handsome cut-leaf foliage, framing showy rose-red funnels that open continously from July to frost. Makes lovely sprays for table decoration, and is superb drapery over rocks. Very adaptable, doing well in light shade and quite moist soil. 10 for \$3.00; 3 for \$1.00; 35 cents each.

FRUTICOSUS. This choice shrub-like Spokane type has leafy evergreen foliage a foot high, bearing glorious blue-purple flower-masses in late spring. Handsome in foliage and flower. Large 2 year plants, 6" tops. 10 for \$4.00; 3 for \$1.25; 50 cents each.

PENTSTEMON GROUP OFFER:

3 of each type (12 large plants) \$3.50 5 of each type (20 large plants) \$5.50 10 of each type (40 large plants) \$10.00 Lovely Lewisias: These charming low plants are among the choicest for bedding and rockery, are fully hardy, and stand prolonged drouth with no injury. Their culture is simple and easy if proper conditions are provided at the start. Starchy carrot-like roots abhor prolonged wetting, demanding open gritty soil with perfect drainage beneath, such as is provided by a sandy slope, rock-pockets, or mixture of sharp sand with a little humus, and a collar of small stones about raised crown. Special care brings rich reward. Plant in full sun or light summer shade, protect foliage and dormant crowns from moisture.

LEWISIA TWEEDYI. One of the most beautiful plants in cultivation, and one of the rarest of all rock plants, native only in Washington. Soft salmon-pink blossoms near 3" in diameter often almost hide the six-inch rosette of glossy evergreen leaves in early June, with occasional bloom later. Set crowns in light mid-day shade, rock pockets or border. Medium-size budding crowns:

10 for \$5.50; 3 for \$2.00; 75 cents each. Extra large; 3 for \$2.50; \$1.00 each.

L. COLUMBIANA. Six-inch dainty sprays of small rosy flowers rise from an evergreen 3" rosette of upcurved leaves in June and later. Easy in full sun with midsummer shade.

10 crowns for \$3.75; 3 for \$1.25; 45 cents each.

L. REDIVIVA. Waxy rose-pink flowers like 2" water-lilies sit almost on the ground for two to three weeks in May. Tiny green needle-crown of early spring goes dormant thru summer. Keep dry after flowering. Plant in fullest sun, in groups for mass effect.

20 strong roots \$3.50; 5 for \$1.00; 25 cents each.

FAME FLOWER (Talinum spinescens). This near kin of the lewisias bears bold cherry-red half-inch flowers with bright yellow stamens on airy 6" stems, opening daily for many weeks in the middle and late summer, above a handsome 3" cushion of green needle-leaves. Few plants give such continuous fresh color, often from July to frost. Stands prolonged drying, dormant in winter, easy and durable. A gem in rockery or sunny corner, that wins high admiration.

10 large crowns \$3.75; 3 for \$1.25; 45 cents each.

LEWISIA GROUP OFFER:

3 of each, 9 rediviva (18 plants) \$6.00 5 of each, 15 rediviva (30 plants) \$9.50 10 of each, 30 rediviva (60 plants) \$17.50

(Turn page for other perennials)

QUEEN OF SPRING (Synthyris reniformis).

Vivid blue 6" spikes amid a crown of shiny evergreen kidney-shaped leaves make this native of our Idaho woods strikingly lovely in spring, and handsome all the year. It is one of our earliest spring flowers, showing color with the first warm days, and dominating the garden for a month while bare of other color. Loves a cool moist spot in the shade of taller plants, is easy and permanent in peaty soil. Give it place of honor in shaded border, or among ferns. Fine young plants ready to bloom:

10 for \$3.00; 3 for \$1.00; 40 cents each.

EARLY BLUE CLEMATIS (C. Columbiana).

Large four-petal blue flowers in May, followed by downy seed clusters, give startling early spring color, as the foliage of this half-woody climber twines over shrubs, rocks or other support. It grows rapidly in rich soil in moist semi-shade, is one of our most admired woodland natives. Fine in perennial or shrub border. Strong two-year plants:

10 for \$3.75; 3 for \$1.25; 45 cents each.

COMPLETE PERENNIAL COLLECTION

Delivery prepaid

Single Order: Each of the 4 pentstemons, 4 Lewisias, Synthyris and Clematis (12 full-size plants labeled, value \$4.65)
Triple Order: Three single orders wrapped separately in one package, all labeled (36 full-size plants, value \$13.95) \$10.50
Fivefold Order: Five single orders wrapped separately in one package, all labeled (60 full-size plants, value \$23.25)

Proper culture can be provided in any garden with the care you bestow on other treasured plants. Bear in mind your local soil conditions. These plants thrive beautifully in porous soil that is quite dry most of the year. They must have good drainage. Protect as far as possible from continued soaking. Rain water alone is best, where sufficient. Very heavy soil may be made porous by working in cinders to a depth of a foot or more, which will also help drainage. In damp climates the best results will come from planting on a sunny, sandy slope with south exposure. These plants are not for the careless indifferent gardener, but they give a rich reward for careful intelligent effort.

Prepare soil carefully before planting. See that roots are well spread out with plenty of room and good depth, guided by soil mark on stem. Work soil between roots, pack very firmly, moisten fully, with an inch of loose soil or mulch on top. Loose shallow planting is the worst crime. Avoid chem-

ical fertilizers. Plants give richer color and last longer if not stimulated. Avoid excess moisture, but do not let soil get entirely dry at any time.

Plants are labeled and packed carefully in damp moss and oiled paper with outer wrapper, to reach you in first-class condition. On arrival take care to keep roots moist and covered from dry air until planted. Soaking for several hours before planting helps quick starting. Give close attention for first month,

Remember these plants are grown under unforced garden culture, in a region of hot dry summers and cold winters, with sudden and extreme climatic changes, sometimes to 20 degrees or more below zero. They are thus hardened to withstand severe cold as well as prolonged summer heat.

Since proper pruning of shrubs is vital to quick healthy growth, the tops will be cut back ready to plant, unless you instruct us to leave them untrimmed.

Send order immediately after Club meeting. Supply is limited, and early orders avoid disappointment. Shipment will be sent promptly, or to arrive on date you specify. A week's time or less is usually sufficient. Airmail will save you several days in delivery.

SEND CHECK WITH ORDER TO

C. E. Artman